

Cedar River Anadromous Fish Committee

Summary Minutes

June 19, 2003

Meeting Time 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM

**Meeting Location:
Landsburg Diversion Dam
and Fish Passage Facility on the Cedar River**

Members and Alternates Present: Bruce Bachen (SPU), Frank Urabeck (Trout Unlimited), Steve Foley (WDFW), Sam Wright (WA Trout), Chuck Wischman and Bill McKay (Puget Sound Anglers), Tom Sibley (NMFS), Tim Romanski (USFWS), and Kollin Higgins (KC).

Other Participants: Chuck Johnson, Brodie Antipa, Joan Thomas, Dave Seiler (WDFW), and Linda DeBoldt, Rand Little, Paul Faulds (SPU)

I. Tour Fish Passage Facility

SPU staff provided members with a tour of the fish passage facilities. The regular meeting followed the tour and the agenda was adjusted to accommodate scheduling constraints.

Review operation protocols and discuss recolonization study

Rand L. provided members with an outline of the Draft Operations and Maintenance Manual for the Landsburg Fish Passage Project and a packet of information from the 2002 Chinook Report. He stated that two important goals of the fish passage facilities were the successful passage of fish and managing instream flows. The Draft Operations and Maintenance Manual was described as living-document and would be updated over time, as new information became available. Future releases would also contain monitoring protocols that were integrated into the facilities operation.

II. Call to order

Bruce called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM. Members were grouped around a covered picnic area in the Landsburg Park.

III. Approval of agenda

Members unanimously approved the revised meeting agenda.

IV. Meeting minutes review and approval from March 12th

Steve F. and Brodie A. recommended some minor changes to the May 19, 2003 meeting minutes and members unanimously approved the minutes.

V. Interim mitigation program for coho, chinook and steelhead

Update on steelhead genetics study – WDFW

Steve F. noted that the WDFW had been out collecting tissue samples twice since the last meeting, collecting 17 additional samples. Seven samples were collected low in the river

near the airport and ten from the base of the Landsburg Dam. Both Steve F. and Brodie A. noted the difficulty in distinguishing from cutthroat and O. mykiss

Plans for Cedar R. predator survey – WDFW (requested by Frank Urabeck)

Bruce B. asked Dave S. to update members on the population estimate of predator fish in the Cedar River. Dave S. said he would work with Steve F. to establish two five-day periods to conduct a hook and line survey of predator fish populations in the river. More than likely the work would involve tagging fish in July and conducting a recapture operation in August.

VI. Cedar River sockeye hatchery program

Status of weir permitting for 2003

Brodie noted that Curtis Wambach with the department was handling the weir permitting. Bruce asked Brodie to ensure Curtis is aware of the deadline for this permit.

Review comments on 2002 Cedar River Sockeye Salmon Fry Production Evaluation

Paul F. handed out a list of comments and questions from the AFC regarding Dave Seiler's report on the fry trap. Members were asked to review the compiled information and provide any additional comments to Paul F.

VII. Public comment (scheduled for 12:30)

There was no public comment.

VIII. Information and discussion items

Hatchery FEIS appeal

Bruce B. noted the hearing appeal date was now July 15 & 16.

Steelhead, Sockeye, Chinook – WDFW

Steve F. noted that there were only 12 steelhead redds this year in the Cedar River, which translated to approximately 20 steelhead. He added that as of today over 8,000 sockeye are estimated to have passed through the locks in to Lake Washington. At this time last year there were 11,000 in the lake. Finally, he noted that about 3 chinook have been counted at the locks this year. Frank U. added the Mike Mahovich does a great job sending out the counts from the Locks. He noted that some of the funding for the counts are provided by the sports fishing industry. Bruce added that the HGMP for the sockeye hatchery is now available for review on the WDFW web page under new releases.

IX. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:15M.